

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 302152Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1011

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 3212

STADIS//////////

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, CS

SUBJECT: VESCO

REF: STATE 158378; SAN JOSE 3140

1. DURING MEETING WITH PRESIDENT ODUBER ON JULY 28, I
EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR HIS HAVING SENT UMANA TO WASHINGTON
TO DISCUSS THE VESCO CASE. I SAID THAT WE APPRECIATED THE
COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE UMANA HAD SHOWN, AND THE VIEWS HE HAD
PRESENTED ON THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE EXTRADITION TREATY AND
THE VESCO LAW. WE WERE DISAPPOINTED, HOWEVER, THAT UMANA WAS
NOT PREPARED TO MAKE ANY SUGGESTIONS REGARDING POSSIBLE AMEND-
MENT TO THE LAW WHICH MIGHT GIVE US SOME POSSIBILITY OF
PRESENTING A SUCCESSFUL EXTRADITION CASE. I SAID THAT WE HAD
RAISED THIS MATTER WITH UMANA AND GIVEN HIM OUR VIEWS ON
AMENDMENTS WHICH WERE NEEDED SO THAT WE MIGHT HAVE
SOME CHANCE OF SUCCESS IN ANY FUTURE EXTRADITION ATTEMPT.
I SAID THAT WE WERE EXPECTING THE TEXT OF OUR SUGGESTED
AMENDMENT IN SPANISH TO ARRIVE AT ANY MOMENT AND I WOULD
PASS A COPY TO HIM IN ADDITION TO THE ONE WHICH WOULD BE
PASSED TO UMANA.

2. ODUBER SAID HE HOPED THAT THE SPANISH TEXT WOULD BE
AVAILABLE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SINCE THE TWO PROPOSED AMEND-
MENTS TO THE LAW ARE READY TO GO TO PLENARY AND HE HAS BEEN
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HOLDING THEM BACK PENDING THE RECEIPT OF OUR COMMENTS. HE

SAID THAT AS SOON AS THE TEXT OF OUR PROPOSALS ARRIVE, HE
WOULD DISCUSS THEM WITH UMANA.

3. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT THE AMENDMENTS TO THE VESCO
LAW ARE SCHEDULED TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE VERY BEGINNING
OF THE ASSEMBLY SESSIONS IN SEPTEMBER. I REMAIN DOUBTFUL
THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL DO MUCH TO CHANGE THE LAW IN
LINE WITH OUR SUGGESTIONS, BUT WE SHOULD CONTINUE THE
EFFORT TO HAVE IT DONE.

TODMAN

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